

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for automatically framing and tracking an object of interest using a camera associated with a hand-held processing device, the method comprising the steps of:

continuously detecting relative movement between the hand-held device and the object of interest within a displayed image generated by said camera; and

continuously adjusting at least one setting of the camera in response to the detected relative movement, so as to maintain a desired framing and tracking of the object of interest within an image and/or successive images generated by the camera for selectively providing either one of a still picture of the object or video image of the object, respectively.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera is integrated into the hand-held device.

3. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera is part of a module insertable into the hand-held device.

4. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera comprises a physically adjustable camera.

5. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera comprises an electronically adjustable camera.

6. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera has one or more of an adjustable pan setting, an adjustable tilt setting, and an adjustable zoom setting.

7. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises a mobile telephone.

8. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises a personal digital assistant (PDA).

5 9. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises a portable computer.

10. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on an output of an orientation determination device integrated into or otherwise associated with the hand-held device.

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11. (Original): The method of claim 10 wherein the orientation determination device comprises one or more gyroscopes integrated into the hand-held device.

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12. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on an output of an image processing operation applied to an image generated by the camera.

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13. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on a hybrid combination of an orientation determination operation and an image processing operation.

14. (Currently Amended): An apparatus for automatically tracking an object of interest, the apparatus comprising:

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a hand-held processing device having at least one camera associated therewith, the hand-held device further comprising a processor operative to ~~control~~ continuously monitor the detection of relative movement between the hand-held device and the object of interest, ~~and to adjust~~ said processor being responsive to the detected relative movement for adjusting at least one setting of the camera so as to continuously maintain a desired framing of the object of interest within an image generated by the camera.

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15. (Currently Amended): An article of manufacture comprising a storage medium for storing one or more programs for tracking an object of interest using at least one camera associated with a hand-held processing device, wherein the one or more programs when executed by a processor implement the steps of:

detecting relative movement between the hand-held device and the object of interest; and

adjusting at least one setting of the ~~camera~~ camera, in response to the detected relative movement, so as to maintain a desired framing of the object of interest within an image generated by the camera.